

Message Text

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11

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 COME-00 L-03 TRSE-00 STR-08

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /046 W

----- 020309

R 060905Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6534

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, ETRD, JA

SUBJ: U.S. FERROUS SCRAP EXPORTS

REF: A. STATE 166798

B. STATE 171815

1. EMBASSY OFFICER CALLED MR. KENGO ISHII, DIRECTOR, AND MASATAKA NAKANO, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, AMERICAN-OCEANIA DIVISION, INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY BUREAU, MITI, TO DISCUSS INFORMATION ON JAPANESE SCRAP ORDERS ON U.S. BOOKS PURCHASED BY JAPANESE TRADING COMPANIES FOR SHIPMENT TO THIRD COUNTRIES, AS REQUESTED REFTEL (A).

2. MR. ISHII STATED THAT MITI HAD CONTACTED THE JAPANESE TRADING COMPANIES INVOLVED, AND CONVEYED THE CONTENTS OF THE COOK-KINOSHITA LETTER TO THEM. MITI IS COLLECTING REQUIRED INFORMATION ON THE JAPANESE PURCHASES FOR THIRD COUNTRIES, AND WILL HAVE A COPY AVAILABLE FOR EMBASSY EXAMINATION AND TRANSMITTAL TO WASHINGTON WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 10.

3. MR. ISHII STATED HE BELIEVES TOTAL DOCUMENTED ORDERS FOR THIRD COUNTRY SHIPMENTS ON U.S. BOOKS WILL NOT EXCEED 500,000 SHORT TONS. IN VIEW OF STRONG INDUSTRY SENSITIVITIES, MR. ISHII ALSO ASKED THAT THE DATA, WHEN FURNISHED TO THE USG, BE KEPT IN STRICT CONFIDENCE. HE FURTHER STATED THAT MR. COOK AGREED THAT THIS CONFIDENTIALITY SHOULD BE MAINTAINED.

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4. GIVEN THE MITI COMMITMENT TO OBTAIN AND FURNISH THE DATA BEING SOUGHT THERE APPEARS TO BE NO NEED FOR AN EMBASSY-JAPANESE TRADING COMPANY MEETING AT THIS TIME. MR. ISHII STATED THAT IF THE MITI-FURNISHED DATA SHOULD PROVE TO BE INSUFFICIENT, MITI WOULD HELP ARRANGE A SUBSEQUENT EMBASSY-TRADING COMPANY MEETING TO OBTAIN SUPPLEMENTAL DATA REQUIRED.

5. EMBASSY WILL SUBMIT MITI-PRODUCED DATA AS SOON AS RECEIVED.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TOKYO11468
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730950/aaaabksg.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. STATE 166798
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16-Nov-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <18-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. FERROUS SCRAP EXPORTS
TAGS: EIND, ETRD, JA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005